

# **Ontario's Labour Market in 2023**

Briefing Deck



#### **Overview**

- The report provides a review of Ontario's labour market performance in 2023
- This presentation will focus on:
  - 1. a summary of the overall labour market in the province
  - 2. labour market outcomes across demographic groups, types of workers, industries and major cities
  - 3. job vacancies
  - 4. wage growth compared to inflation

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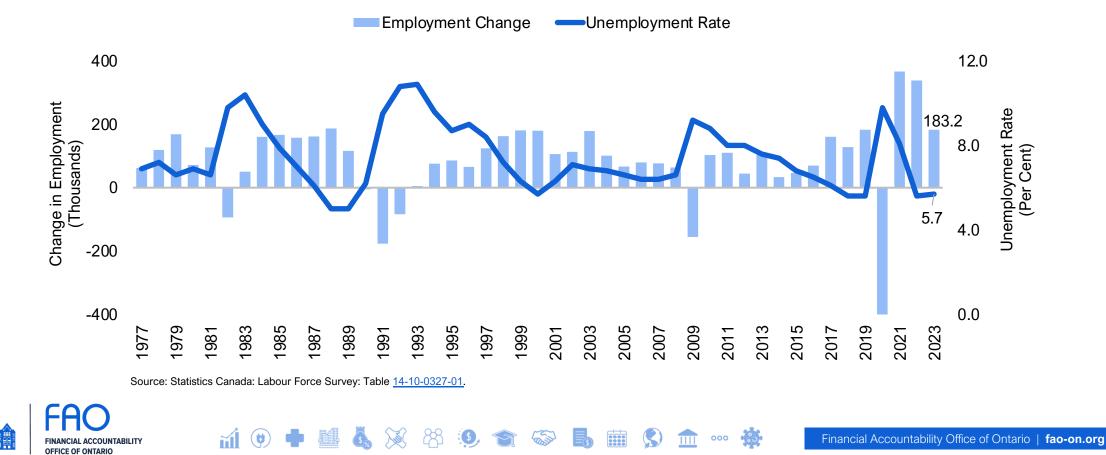
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# Ontario's labour market moderated in 2023 following two years of record job gains

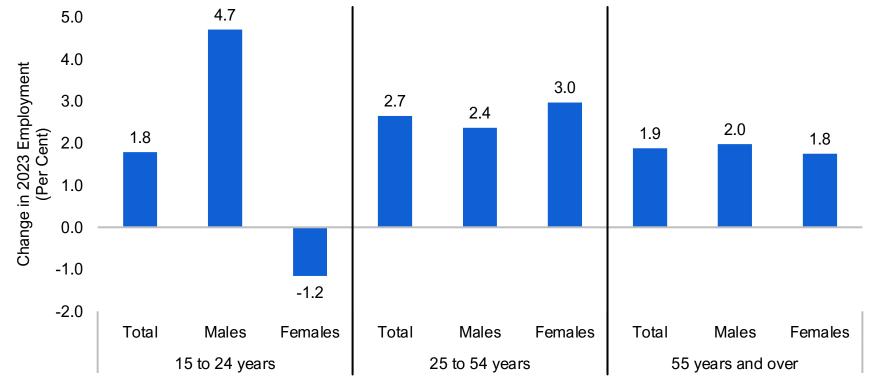
- The pace of Ontario's job creation moderated in 2023, with employment rising by 183,200 jobs (or 2.4 per cent).
- The annual unemployment rate in the province inched up from 5.6 per cent in 2022 to 5.7 per cent in 2023.



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## Most demographic groups saw job gains

- Employment increased across all broad age and gender categories except female youth (aged 15-24).
- Core-aged workers (25-54) experienced employment growth of 2.7 per cent in 2023. The employment rate (84.1 per cent) and labour force participation rate (88.3 per cent) of core-aged workers reached record highs in 2023.

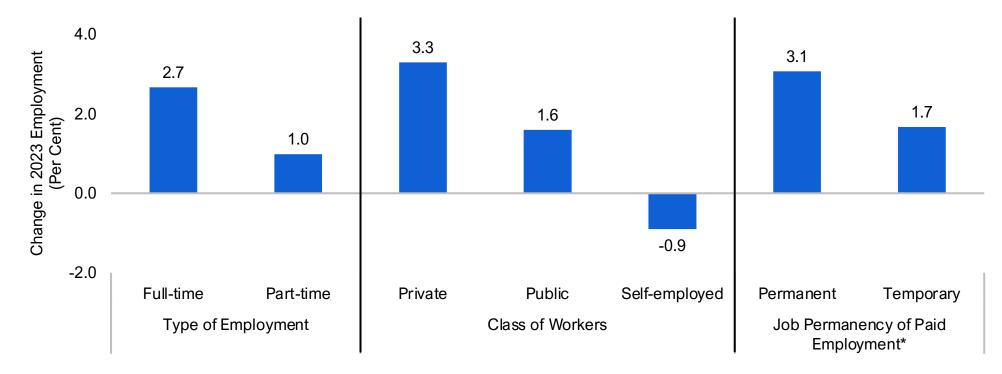


Source: Statistics Canada: Labour Force Survey: Table 14-10-0327-01.



#### Most types of workers saw employment growth

- Employment grew across most major categories except for self-employed workers.
- The number of self-employed Ontarians declined by 9,800 (-0.9 per cent) in 2023, marking the third drop in the past four years. Self-employed workers accounted for 13.6 per cent of total employment, the lowest share since 1991.



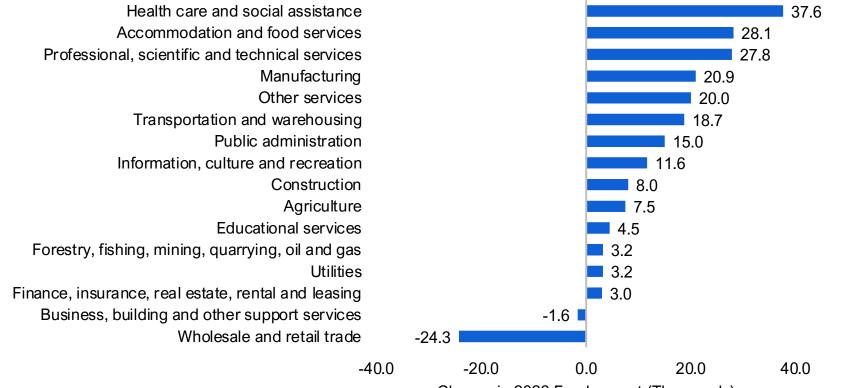
\* Paid employment does not include the self-employed.

Source: Statistics Canada: Labour Force Survey: Tables <u>14-10-0327-01</u>, <u>14-10-0027-01</u> and <u>14-10-0072-01</u>.



## The majority of industries experienced job growth

- Of the 16 major industries in Ontario, 14 saw an increase in employment in 2023.
- Health care and social assistance recorded the largest increase in employment (37,600 or 4.0 per cent), while wholesale and retail trade saw a decrease (-24,300 or -2.1 per cent).



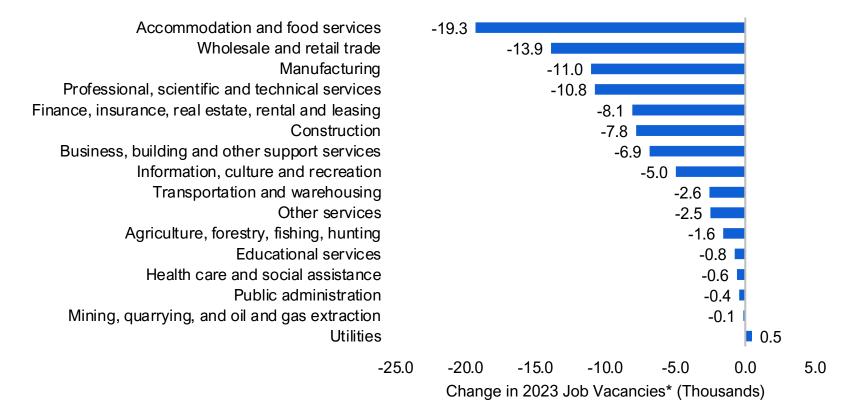
Change in 2023 Employment (Thousands)

Source: Statistics Canada: Labour Force Survey: Table <u>14-10-0023-01</u>.



#### Job vacancies trended lower in 2023

- In tandem with the slower pace of employment gains, the number of job vacancies declined by 90,900 (-24.9 per cent) in 2023.
- Job vacancies declined in all industries except utilities (500 or 43.9 per cent increase).



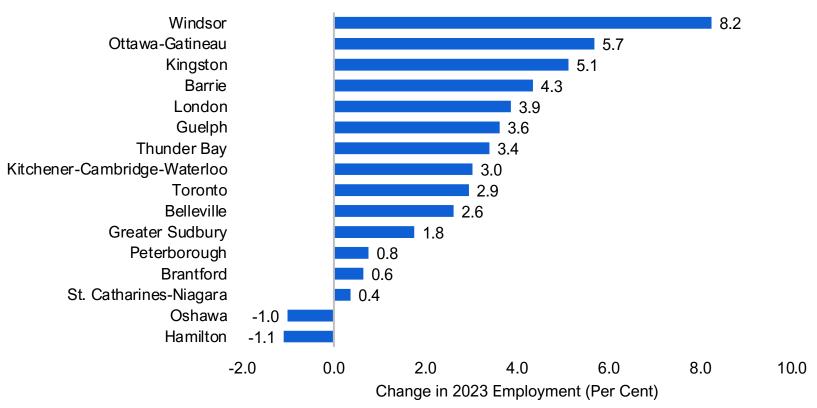
\* Change in the average number of job vacancies in the first three quarters of 2023 compared to the average over the same period in 2022. Source: Statistics Canada: Job Vacancy and Wage Survey: Table <u>14-10-0326-01</u>.



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#### Most Census Metropolitan Areas experienced job growth

- Windsor (8.2 per cent), Ottawa-Gatineau (5.7 per cent), and Kingston (5.1 per cent) recorded the fastest pace of job creation among Ontario CMAs.
- Hamilton (-1.1 per cent) and Oshawa (-1.0 per cent) experienced job losses.

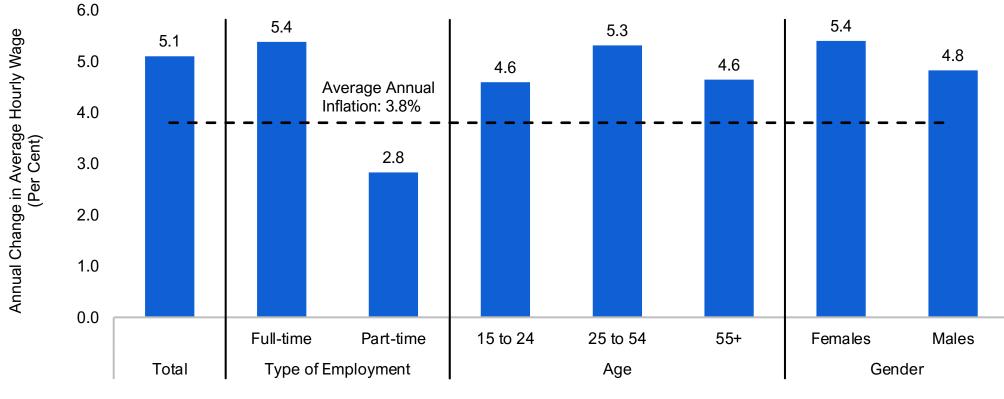


Source: Statistics Canada: Labour Force Survey: Table 14-10-0385-01.



# Wage growth outpaced inflation in 2023 for most groups of workers

- Following two years of wage growth lagging inflation, the average hourly wage of Ontarians increased
  5.1 per cent to \$34.63 in 2023, above the 3.8 per cent average annual CPI inflation rate.
- Average hourly wage growth was above inflation for all types of workers except part-time employees.



Source: Statistics Canada: Labour Force Survey: Table <u>14-10-0064-01</u>.



# Thank you!



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